



Iowa Department of Human Services

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Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1444

DATE: October 31, 2014

TO: Iowa Medicaid Physicians Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP) and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Anesthesia Reimbursement Updates

EFFECTIVE: December 1, 2014

In the past, Iowa Medicaid instructed providers to bill code 01967 (Neuraxial labor analgesia/anesthesia for planned vaginal delivery) as a time based code with one unit equal to one minute. For dates of service on or after December 1, 2014, the IME will reimburse code 01967 at a fixed rate physician fee schedule amount of \$356.02. This code should be submitted with only one unit of service, per member, per day.

Update on Anesthesia Pricing Modifiers

Physician Billing:

- Use modifier AA when a physician provides the anesthesia service. Modifier AA will reimburse at 100 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.
- Use modifier AD when a CRNA is medically supervised by a physician involving more than four concurrent anesthesia procedures. Modifier AD will reimburse at 50 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.
- Use modifier QY for medical direction of a CRNA who is employed by the hospital. Modifier QY will reimburse at 50 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.
- Use modifier QK when a CRNA is medically supervised by a physician for two, three or four concurrent anesthesia procedures. Modifier QK will reimburse at 50 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.

CRNA Billing:

- Use modifier QZ when a CRNA provides anesthesia with no medical direction from an anesthesiologist. Modifier QZ will reimburse at 80 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.

- Use modifier QX when a CRNA provides anesthesia with medical direction from an anesthesiologist. Modifier QX will reimburse at 50 percent of the physician fee for the anesthesia service rendered.

Please note these changes are prospective in nature and effective for dates of service on or after December 1, 2014. No retroactive adjustments will be made.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609 or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.